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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) An ophthalmic composition comprising:  
an ophthalmically acceptable carrier component; and  
a polyanionic component including a first polyanionic component portion having a first weight average molecular weight of about 700,000 Daltons; and a second polyanionic component portion having a second weight average molecular weight of about 250,000 Daltons; the first and second polyanionic component portions each being present in an amount effective to provide lubrication to an eye when the composition is administered to an eye, the first and second molecular weights being different by at least about 50,000 Daltons, the first polyanionic component portion and the second polyanionic component portion being selected from the group consisting of anionic cellulosic derivatives and mixtures thereof.
2. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition has an increased ability to adhere to an eye when the composition is administered to an eye relative to a substantially identical composition having an equal total amount of the polyanionic component and substantially no first polyanionic component portion.

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3. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition has a reduced ability to cause blurriness of vision in an eye when the composition is administered to an eye relative to a substantially identical composition having an equal total amount of the polyanionic component and substantially no second polyanionic component portion.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 2 wherein the composition has a reduced ability to cause blurriness of vision in an eye when the composition is administered to an eye relative to a substantially identical composition having an equal total amount of polyanionic component and substantially no second polyanionic component.

Claims 5-8 (Canceled)

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second polyanionic component portions is selected from the group consisting of carboxy methyl celluloses and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Canceled)

11. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein each of the first and second polyanionic component portions is present in an amount of at least about 0.1% (w/v) of the composition.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 1 which has a viscosity in a range of about 15 cps to about 200 cps.

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13. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the polyanionic component is present in an amount in a range of about 0.2% to about 5% (w/v) of the composition.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the polyanionic component is present in an amount in a range of about 0.6% to about 1.8%.

15. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the weight ratio of the first polyanionic component portion ~~[[and]]~~ to the second polyanionic component portion is in a range of about 0.02 to about 50.

16. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the weight ratio of the first polyanionic component portion ~~[[and]]~~ to the second polyanionic component portion is in a range of about 0.25 to about 4.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the carrier component includes at least one of the following: an effective amount of a buffer component; an effective amount of a tonicity component; an effective amount of a preservative component; and water.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 1 where the first and second polyanionic component portions are separately derived.

20. (Previously presented) An ophthalmic composition comprising:

an ophthalmically acceptable carrier component; and

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a polyanionic component including at least a first polyanionic component portion having a weight average molecular weight of about 700,000 Daltons and a second polyanionic component portion having a weight average molecular weight of about 250,000 Daltons, the first polyanionic component portion having a weight average molecular weight which differs from the weight average molecular weight of the second polyanionic component portion by at least about 50,000 Daltons, and each of the first and second polyanionic component portions being present in an amount of at least about 0.1% w/v of the composition, the at least two polyanionic component portions being selected from the group consisting of anionic cellulosic derivatives and mixtures thereof.

Claims 21-22 (Canceled)

23. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein the composition has an increased ability to adhere to an eye when the composition is administered to an eye relative to a substantially identical composition having an equal total amount of polyanionic component and substantially no polyanionic component portion with the greatest molecular weight.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein the composition has a reduced ability to cause blurriness of vision in an eye when the composition is administered to an eye relative to a substantially identical composition having an equal total amount of polyanionic component and substantially no polyanionic component portion having the lowest molecular weight.

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25. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein each of the polyanionic component portions, other than having different molecular weights, has a substantially similar chemical structure.

Claims 26-27 (Canceled)

28. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein all the polyanionic component portions are selected from the group consisting of carboxyl methyl celluloses and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29 (Canceled)

30. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein each of the polyanionic component portions is present in an amount of at least about 0.2% (w/v) of the composition.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 20 which has a viscosity in a range of about 15 cps to about 200 cps.

32. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein the polyanionic component is present in an amount in a range of about 0.2% to about 5% (w/v) of the composition.

33. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein the polyanionic component is present in an amount in a range of about 0.6% to about 1.8% (w/v) of the composition.

34. (Original) The composition of claim 20 wherein the carrier component includes at least one of the following: an effective amount of a buffer component; an effective amount of a

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tonicity component; an effective amount of a preservative component; and water.

Claims 35-40 (Canceled)